**DISTANCE SCOUTING PROGRAMME 20**

**(7 AUGUST 2020)**

**“THE N\*S\*A – IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF EARHART”**

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| **You have until 19h00 on Friday 14 August 2020 to complete this programme. Follow the instructions carefully and you will be marked “present” for the programme, earn points for your patrol and hopefully compete some advancement and prepare for upcoming programmes and camps. More importantly, HAVE FUN!!!** |

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| **Equipment required for programme:**   * A cellphone with internet access and WhatsApp access to your patrol WhatsApp Group. * A phone or camera with the ability to take a video. * A straw, some card or paper and some tape. * Your personal journal |

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| **The PL should, as always, designate who is doing what and, if nobody is doing an item (such as posting a training video) do this item so that the patrol can complete the programme.** |

Last week you started your first case as a N\*S\*A Agent, trying to break into the computer of a top N\*S\*A Agent who recently went missing.

Getting the password from the terrible twins was easier than you thought. You simply ask one of the twins what password the other twin would tell you if you asked him what the correct password is. You then enter the other password.

The logic is simple – if you speak to the truth-telling twin he will know that the other twin will tell you the wrong password, and accordingly will tell you the wrong password. If you speak to the lying twin he will know that that other twin will tell you the truth. But because he always lies, he will tell you the wrong password. Either way, you will be given the incorrect password – you just use the other one.

When you got past the twins it asked you to enter a special one-time pin. To get that you needed to decipher the doodles on the desk pad.

The doodles turned out to be Morse Code, which was used extensively to send messages prior to the advent of modern communication methods. When deciphered, you found the following message: “POST THE WORD GENIUS ON YOUR PATROL WHATSAPP GROUP”.

Posting “Genius” caused an OTP to be sent to you, which you entered into the computer.

Most of the stuff on the computer was fairly mundane, but in one file you found this:

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| 22 July 2020  I have stumbled on a plot by an unknown organisation to attack the upcoming World Covid conference in Durban, South Africa. The consequences could be devastating, but nobody will believe me without proof! I only know the target, but not when it will happen or how the attack will take place.  I have one suspect so far – Wolfgang Von Klinkenhoven – an ultra-rich industrialist living in a mansion in Mpumalanga. I used a ‘phone tap to listen in on one of his conversations. Someone was asking for a delivery to be made to “The Eagle’s Lair”, which I can only assume is the main base of the organisation. When he asked which route would be open, the answer was “Follow in Earhart’s final footsteps”. |

**INSPECTION:**

You don’t know much about Amelia Earhart other than that she was one of the most famous female aviatrixes to have ever lived and that she mysteriously disappeared on her final flight – an attempt to fly around the world.

There must be a reason why the organisation have referenced Earhart – she must mean something to them.

Find out a bit about Amelia Earhart and especially why she was an inspirational woman and post your findings on your patrol WhatsApp group. You will get bonus points if you complete this task on or before 9 August 2020 – Woman’s Day.

**GAME:**

If you are going to follow in the footsteps of Earhart you are going to need an aeroplane, and the resources of the N\*S\*A are stretched to the limit at the moment. See if you can solve your problem by making a simple glider.

**If you enjoy gliders and like a challenge, consider doing your Model Aero Engineer Badge. Requirements can be found at** <https://scoutwiki.scouts.org.za/index.php?title=Model_Aero_Engineer_Scout_Interest_Badge>

Make two circles with paper or light card. Tape these to a straw as shown in the diagram and VOILA!

See how far your glider will make it and post your best distance on your patrol WhatsApp group, together with a photo or video of you using your glider.

**CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF ADVENTURE:**

You have limited time and resources and, much as you would like to stake out Von Klinkenhoven’s mansion you think your best bet of getting to the bottom of this mystery is to find “The Eagle’s Lair”, which is presumably in the Pacific. This means a long flight in a seaplane towards Howland Island – Earhart disappeared near here.

**This can count towards item 6 of the Observation Scoutcraft Badge (**<https://scoutwiki.scouts.org.za/index.php?title=Observation_Scoutcraft_Badge>**) and towards item 8a of the Air Planner Scoutcraft Badge (**<https://scoutwiki.scouts.org.za/index.php?title=Air_Planner_Scoutcraft_Badge>**). You will need to know your clouds well, arrange for your parents or scouter to test you if you want to do either badge.**

Flying can be very dangerous, particularly when it comes to clouds. Some clouds are harmless, others can ice up your wings and cause you to plunge to your death.

Test yourself and see if you can identify the following types of cloud, what weather is associated with each and why these clouds are significant for aviators. Post your answers on your Patrol WhatsApp Group, using the numbers provided to reference the pictures:

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| **Cloud 1**  Rising CO2 Levels Could Wipe Out Stratocumulus Clouds ... | **Cloud 2**  Nimbostratus clouds - Met Office |
| **Cloud 3** | **Cloud 4** |
| **Cloud 5**  Cumulonimbus - the biggest beast it the sky @ Windy Community | Cirrus Clouds ~ | Cirrus cloud, Clouds, Cloud type**Cloud 6** |

**HOWLAND ISLAND:**

Howland Island is best known as the Island Earhart was aiming for when she disappeared. Today it is a nature reserve that is meant to be uninhabited and which is only visited once every two years by US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Imagine your surprise when you and your patrol finally arrive at the Island to find signs of a military presence. Your land your seaplane off-shore (hopefully out of sight of the inhabitants) and report to base. They ask you to reconnoitre the island and to produce a map of the area. They will then give you further instructions.

You sneak ashore after dark. Where you expected a wind-swept atoll home to some seals and birds there are fences, guard towers and other signs of a well-established military base. You explore the island thoroughly, being careful not to get caught.

**If you do not hold your Map Reading Scoutcraft Badge, do the following:**

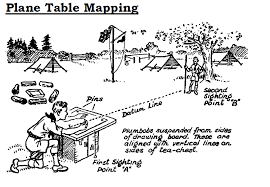
**If you do this properly you will get item 5d of your Map Reading Scoutcraft Badge signed off. To pass this you need to show that you know your conventional map symbols, so ensure that your written description ties up with your map. Full requirements of the badge can be found at** <https://scoutwiki.scouts.org.za/index.php?title=Map_Reading_Scoutcraft_Badge>

Use your imagination to create a map of Howland Island, setting out the location of all important features (roads, buildings, rivers etc). In your map you need to include at least 15 different conventional map symbols as used on a 1:50 000 topographical map in South Africa.

Report-back to home by posing a picture of your map on your patrol WhatsApp group, as well as a rough written description of the island. Then await further instructions.

**If you hold your Map Reading Scoutcraft Badge but do not hold the Mapping Interest Badge, do the following:**

**This covers item 4 of your Mapping Interest Badge. The full requirements can be found at** <https://scoutwiki.scouts.org.za/index.php?title=Mapping_Scout_Interest_Badge>

Make a detailed map of scale 1:500 of an area of about 4 hectares in extent using plane tabling. You should have at least 4 legs on your baseline, require 100 sightings and need roughly 50 other measurements. If you need help on how to plane table, phone your scouter. Check that the area you want to map is acceptable to your scouter for your Mapping Badge.

Post a picture of your finished map on your patrol WhatsApp Group and arrange to get the original, together with your working rough notes to your scouter (perhaps do a “dead drop” at your hall or pop them in the scouter’s post box.

**If you hold your Mapping Interest Badge** put together a training video on how to make a map using plane tabling and post it on your patrol WhatsApp Group.

**BLOGS:**

Post an update in either your personal log or on your patrol Blog on what you did this week as an update to base back in South Africa.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

* Congratulations to Andrew Kennedy on completing his Covid-19 Awareness Badge.
* Congratulation for an excellent showing by the Troop on the “Hike to Mafikeng” Challenge. The troop easily did the distance and only two scouts did not earn the “Hike to Mafikeng Badge”.
* Applications for the National Senior Scout Adventure are now open. If you are going to be 15 or older please message your PL that you want to take part and register at <https://cederbergadventure.co.za/>. **DO NOT PAY A DEPOSIT YET!!!**
* New Star Patrol and Star Troop forms are now available. Please let your PL know when you can make a meeting of your patrol to do your initial assessment.
* A reminder that SCOUTS South Africa has made branded facemasks available at a cost of R40,00 per mask, excluding delivery. Visit the online scout shop at <https://shop.scouts.org.za/> to place your order.
* The Northrand Scout District is running a competition for all NORTHRAND Scouts. The Northrand Scout that earns the most interest and/or scoutcraft badges during the lockdown will win a prize worth roughly R150,00. Can you be the best in the district and scoop the prize?

SCOUTS South Africa has developed a Covid-19 awareness badge. Are you up to the challenge? Visit <https://www.scouts.org.za/2020/05/26/covid-19-awareness-badge/> for information on the requirements.

* This Distance Scouting Programme is an experiment. We would appreciate constructive feedback on the programme. Please send this to [andrew.campbell@scouts.org.za](mailto:andrew.campbell@scouts.org.za).

**TROOP DISMISSED!**